

Frequently Asked Questions: Course Providers

1. How do I get my course approved through the U.S. Coast Guard?

If you want to have your course approved through the U.S. Coast Guard, follow the steps listed under the [Course/Programs tab](#) located on our Training Approvals webpage.

2. What is a Designated Examiner? How do I become an approved Designated Examiner?

- a. A Designated Examiner (DE) is a person who has been trained or instructed in techniques of training or assessment and is otherwise qualified to evaluate whether an applicant has achieved the level of competence required to hold a merchant mariner credential (MMC) endorsement. To become a DE for towing officer assessment records (TOARs), an applicant must have documentary evidence to establish—
 - (1) Experience, training, or instruction in assessment techniques on towing vessels;
 - (2) Qualifications on towing vessels in the task for which the assessment is being conducted; and
 - (3) Possession of the level of endorsement on towing vessels, or other professional credential, which provides proof that he or she has attained a level of qualification equal or superior to the relevant level of knowledge, skills, and abilities described in the training objectives.
- (c) Documentary evidence may be in the form of performance evaluations, which include an evaluation of effectiveness in on-the-job organization and delivery of training, or a certificate of successful completion from an “assessor training” course.
- b. If you would like to become a Designated Examiner, follow the steps listed under the [DEs tab](#) located on our Training Approvals webpage.

3. How do I get one of my instructors approved through the U.S. Coast Guard?

If you want to have one of your instructors approved through the U.S. Coast Guard, follow the steps listed under the [Instructors tab/Proctors tab](#) located on our Training Approvals webpage.